

During the massive CA earthquake of 1993, I, then KI7NL, relayed thousands of emergency messages over a three day period. It was necessary to switch between 7.0Mhz and 3.5Mhz to maintain reliable communications during day/night changes. I had much trouble during this time where 7.0Mhz was extending, while 3.5Mhz was not yet open.

Having access to an intermediate band on the 5.0Mhz range would have eliminated this problem. I feel that a secondary allocation in the 5.250Mhz - 5.400Mhz band for amateur use would greatly improve emergency communications capabilities. I urge the FCC to adopt the ARRL petition opening these frequencies to amateur use. Thank you.

Pat Martini - KI3P
communications